

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting February 11, 2026  
Minutes

Present: Susan Howland, Robin Yates, Nancy Waugh, Pastor Dan Purtell, Josh Spooner, Cat Reith-Lowery, Mary Bridget Burns  
Via Zoom: Eileen DeMings, Ryan Bousquet  
Regrets: Lynn Garland, Dave Monroe

Pastor Dan opened the meeting at 7:10 with a welcome to our two new vestry members.  
Holy Eucharist was celebrated  
A **motion** was made to accept the minutes. It was seconded, and carried.  
A **motion** was made to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded, and carried.

**Pastoral Care Check-in:** Pastor Dan visited several parishioners. Robin made a Eucharistic Visit.

- **Action:** Judy will restart the card ministry. Robin will be the card ministry point person and oversee Judy's needs.

The Pastoral Relations Committee met on January 29<sup>th</sup>

**What have we done well:** The Epiphany Service, the Annual Meeting, Pub hours with Pastor Dan, Souper Bowl Sunday (had profits of \$108.00). Including the children in the different aspects of the church: ushering, acolyte, hospitality This is greatly admired & appreciated. One youth member is interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, under the guidance of Jean & Pastor Dan.

**What could we have done better?** There was a discussion about the church heating system. There were some concerns about the cost of the soup being too low.

- **Action:** Suggest that the Souper Bowl team discuss and decide on any changes.

**PRIEST'S REPORT:** Pastor Dan attended the Western Mass Clergy Day on February 10. He had an opportunity to see our new bishop elect Rev. Miguelina Howell, and Rich Simpson. The focus was centered around ICE in the country, and specifically Massachusetts. Discussion followed regarding resistance training, and various other ministries. On April 12, 2026 there will be a farewell service at St. Matthew's in Worcester, at 3:00 for Bishop Doug. The consecration service for Rev. Miquelina Howell will be on April 25, 2026, at Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield.

**FOLLOW-UP TO PREVIOUS BUSINESS:** Pub hours 2/12 at 6:00 at Rapsallion. Shared service at Holy Trinity Church on 2/22. Board Game Coffee Hour to follow. The Collaboration Team met on January 27, 2026. Pastor Dan, HTEC: Joe, David, Patricia. BLC: Heather, Cathy, David. Heather brought up the possibility of further youth events. Discussion followed regarding the next Cathedral in the Night event. The dates are; March 14th: to prepare the food. March 15th: to serve the food.

- **Action:** Susan will check in with Food Share regarding Saturday dates for Food Share.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Calendar-looking forward:

**Shrove Tuesday:** Information has already been sent out. Eileen: Chair and Cat: Alleluia banner is being worked on by Trisha. Children will sign/decorate the banner during the pancake supper.

**The Chosen:** March 4, 19, and 25. March 4th will be an intergenerational evening with potluck. Adults will watch The Chosen. Youth will separate for a program on prayer for Lent. Closing prayer in sanctuary.

**Ash Wednesday:** Ashes to go: BLC 7-9 AM; HTEC 4-6 PM; 7:00PM service HTEC.

**Cathedral in the Nigh** March 14th: to prepare the food. March 15th: to serve the food.

**Holy Week Services:** Palm Sunday: March 29th: Shared Service BLC 10:00 AM; Maundy Thursday: BLC 7:00 PM Service: Prayer Vigil follows at HTEC(more discussion for possible changes to follow) Good

## Approved

Friday: the youth group will meet at St. Anne's for The Stations of The Cross. Time to be determined

Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service at OSV; 9:00 BLC; 11:00 HTEC.

**Vestry Retreat:** Saturday, April 18th. This will be a shared retreat between the vestry of Holy Trinity and the council of Bethlehem. Steven Wilco, Cannon to the Ordinary, and Kim Bergstrand, associate to the bishop for the New England Synod will be facilitating the retreat. This will be held at Camp Woodstock, in Woodstock, CT.

**Scout Sunday** will be observed on Family Worship Sunday in March .

- **Action:** Cat will contact Chris to put the information into the Tidings.

Cat requested the use of the building the week of 2/15, Thursday/Friday/Saturday, for her Girl Scout troop. The executive committee pre-approved this request.

- **Action:** Susan will work on the details with Cat.

### **Ministry Reports:**

**Communications:** Susan is communicating with Chris. The Episcopal Women's group will be inviting The BLC women to join the Episcopal Women's Facebook page. Susan and Nancy are working on the Parochial Report.

- **Action:** The vestry will need to review and approve the parochial report. The report needs to be submitted by March 1st.

Susan reminded us that we need to submit Lorraine's Diaconate report.

**Building Committee:** Jean Frost: The building committee met on January 21st. See attached report emailed separately

### **Family Worship/Faith Formation: Eileen**

There are plans for Lent & Holy week and a Good Friday Service They will be piloting a new faith formation program. This program will begin after Easter and go through the summer. Materials will be set out on the children's table in the parish hall each Sunday to correlate with the readings for that Sunday.

Pastor Dan closed the meeting with prayer

Adjourn - 9:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Yates, clerk